
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO
ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT A STUDY CONCERNING THE
CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS OF THE STATE ARCHIVES.

1 WHEREAS, the original State Archives Building, known as the
2 Kana'ina Building, was built in 1905 on the 'Iolani Palace
3 grounds, within the Hawai'i Capital Historic District, to house
4 the Public Archives of Hawai'i; and

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6 WHEREAS, after many years of collecting and acquiring into
7 the Public Archives the most important records and artifacts of
8 the governments of Hawai'i from the Hawaiian Kingdom through
9 Statehood, the State Archives eventually outgrew the Kana'ina
10 Building; and

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12 WHEREAS, in 1952, a new building adjacent to the Kana'ina
13 Building was constructed as the new home of the State Archives
14 and named after Kekāuluohi; and

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16 WHEREAS, there exists a need to promote citizen engagement
17 in the documentary heritage of the government, provide greater
18 education on the history of Hawai'i's governments and its people,
19 and assist the people of Hawai'i in connecting with their
20 personal history as well as the history of Hawai'i; and

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22 WHEREAS, there exists a need to have a dedicated display
23 space to highlight the many historic records and artifacts
24 preserved in the Public Archives that document the vibrant and
25 diverse history of Hawai'i, its public institutions, and its
26 people; and

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28 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i Capital Historic District has been the
29 center of Hawai'i's government for over a century, now consists



1 of twenty buildings and structures, and was added to the
2 National Register of Historic Places on December 1, 1978; and
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4 WHEREAS, the buildings and structures within the Hawai'i
5 Capital Historic District have distinct architectural styles,
6 ranging from the nineteenth century adaptations of New England
7 homes to the Italianate Renaissance Revival and Neoclassic
8 edifices of the Hawaiian Monarchy; and
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10 WHEREAS, the current State Archives Building does not fit
11 architecturally with the other buildings of the Hawai'i Capital
12 Historic District; and
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14 WHEREAS, the current State Archives Building not only
15 appears outdated, but is also outdated in function with
16 electrical and elevator problems requiring expensive repair
17 along with a lack of stable backup power, which puts the secure
18 storage of the records at risk; and
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20 WHEREAS, the historical records of Hawai'i held at the State
21 Public Library, which is near the current State Archives
22 Building, should be stored in the same location and with the
23 same archival standards as the historical records held at the
24 State Archives; and
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26 WHEREAS, aging, underrepresented, and marginalized segments
27 of the community seek to donate important historical documents
28 and artifacts to the State Archives, but a lack of storage space
29 in the current State Archives Building requires the State
30 Archivist to be very selective in accepting donations; now,
31 therefore,
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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
34 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of
35 Representatives concurring, that the Department of Accounting
36 and General Services is requested to establish a task force to
37 conduct a study concerning the current and future needs of the
38 State Archives; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force members be
41 selected as follows:
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1 (1) Three members to be selected by the President of the
2 Senate; provided that at least one member is a member
3 of the Senate;
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5 (2) Three members to be selected by the Speaker of the
6 House of Representatives; provided that at least one
7 member is a member of the House of Representatives;
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9 (3) Three members to be selected by the Governor; and
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11 (4) Four members to be selected by the Comptroller;
12 provided that at least two members be Archives
13 Division employees; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
16 select a chairperson from among its members; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a vacancy on the task force
19 shall be filled by the same selection authority that appointed
20 the vacating member; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that seven members of the task force
23 shall constitute a quorum; provided that an affirmative vote of
24 five members shall be necessary for decision-making; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force meeting schedule
27 shall be determined by the members; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force shall
30 not be considered state employees for the purposes of chapter
31 84, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, due solely to their service on the
32 task force; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
35 include in its study an analysis of the:
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37 (1) Requirements of the State Archives to continue to
38 acquire the documentary and artifactual history of
39 Hawai'i and its people for the next fifty years;
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41 (2) Expected suitability of the current Archives
42 facilities over the next fifty years;



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2 (3) Space requirements to create a museum quality display
3 space for the Public Archives to educate the public
4 and visitors on the documentary and artifactual
5 history of Hawai'i, its public institutions, and its
6 people through exhibitions, educational seminars, and
7 interpretive displays;
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9 (4) Suitability of renovating Kekāuluohi to conform to the
10 architectural style of the Hawai'i Capital Historic
11 District while updating its infrastructure to conform
12 to archival standards and meet the Archives' needs for
13 the next fifty years; using existing State facilities
14 to house or extend the operations of the State
15 Archives, or both; or constructing a new, suitable
16 facility to house the Public Archives and State
17 Archives' operations, or both;
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19 (5) Capability of current and projected new facilities to
20 digitize the records of the Public Archives and
21 provide the necessary infrastructure to support the
22 Digital Archives;
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24 (6) Feasibility of combining the historical documents or
25 archival records currently located at the State
26 Library into the records of the State Archives; and
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28 (7) Utility of a Hawai'i Capital Historic District Visitor
29 Center in conjunction with any display space for the
30 Archives' holdings; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
33 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
34 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
35 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
36 2020; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
40 Comptroller, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of
41 Representatives, State Archivist, and State Librarian.

